

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 99-25 (LPFM Proceeding)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to thank the FCC Commissioners for their recent steps towards licensing new low power FM radio stations. As a supporter of the Chicago Independent Radio Project (CHIRP), I am writing today to ask you to be sure to allow room for new LPFMs in large markets like Chicago. It's crucial to allow new grassroots radio stations like CHIRP the opportunity to broadcast to our vibrant, diverse urban audiences.

I strongly support the idea of dismissing all pending translator licenses in markets where a set LPFM "floor" could not be met if additional translator licenses were granted. I'd also ask that, moving forward, the Commission make sure there is room for urban LPFMs in the country's largest markets by providing opportunities for waivers for second adjacent channels, as called for in the Local Community Radio Act.

Allowing LPFMs in major cities would be a huge step in improving the state of FM radio, and ensuring that it's a medium that is a creative resource for our and future generations. There is a sense of community in radio that can't be replicated by listening to an iPod. Radio stations bring us new music that wouldn't have been found independently, and also report on current, local events of interest. The fact that Chicago, the third largest city in America, has only one modern rock station is deplorable. There is certainly room for more variety on the dial. Please help make it happen.

Please give groups like CHIRP the chance to apply for broadcast licenses by providing the flexibility to ensure frequencies can be found to license new LPFMs in urban areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Smyth

Volunteer, Chicago Independent Radio Project